

THE STARS AND STRIPES

MEDITERRANEAN

Vol. 1, No. 31, Tuesday, July 11, 1944

Published In Italy

Two Lire

British Aim New Drive At Caumont

Another Column Trying To Force Orne Bridgehead

SHAFF, July 10—British forces in Normandy have launched at least two more attacks since the fall of Caen and La Haye and Allied headquarters announced today that "intense activity was going on everywhere along the Normandy front except in the St. Lo-Caumont sector."

One assault, hooking west and then south of Caen, crossing the River Orne again and was aiming at forcing a bridgehead across the Orne due south of Caen. The other struck inland about six miles northeast of Caumont, in the center of the bridgehead, but seems to have met with immediate and determined enemy resistance.

CLEARED FROM CITY

Latest reports from Caen said that the Germans were cleared from the city but that the control of bridges leading out across the Orne River was in doubt.

There were few details of the fighting at La Haye, although Americans who took the western beachhead strongpoint were reported 2,000 yards due south of the town.

Today's Allied communique said the American advance down the Carentan-Periers road was proceeding well. One dispatch reported the capture of Sainteny, five miles southwest of Carentan and ten miles southeast of La Haye.

While the Allies implied there was little action from St. Lo southeast to Carentan, the German-controlled Vichy radio announced (Continued on page 8)

U-Boats Fail All Counts

WASHINGTON, July 10—President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill reported jointly yesterday that "Hitler's submarine fleet failed on all counts in June, 1944."

No detailed figures were given but the monthly report of the anti-submarine campaign asserted that losses of merchant vessels to undersea raiders "reached almost the lowest figure of the entire war. For every United Nations' merchant vessel sunk by German submarines several times as many U-boats were sent to the bottom."

A supplementary communique reported the signal failure of the German undersea fleet to accomplish any important interference with the Normandy invasion operations, asserting that only one merchant ship of the great fleet taking part in that action could be charged off as a possible U-boat victim.

Priest Silent On Vatican Trip

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., July 10—The Rev. Father Stanislaus Orlemanski said today he had "no comment" to make about reports that he planned to visit Pope Pius XII in the near future to discuss his recent conferences with Marshal Joseph Stalin.

Father Orlemanski, 54-year-old Polish Catholic priest, refused to say if he had asked permission of Bishop Thomas M. O'Leary to absent himself from Our Lady of Rosary Church of which he is pastor. The priest was suspended from his ecclesiastical duties in May for neglecting to secure permission before making the trip to Russia.

CATCHING UP



AS SOON AS YANKS in Normandy got a rest, they gathered around to collect their mail. Later, the GIs took time out to read the letters which had followed them from Britain. In this clearing, one unit distributed mail for men whose names began with A through G. (PWB Photo)

Saipan Conquest Hailed As Key To Pacific Victory

By Sgt. JACK FOISIE
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, July 10—The conquest of Saipan was completed today, the Navy Department announced, while military observers hailed the completion of the battle as placing in American hands the key which will eventually unlock the door to victory against Japan.

Assessing the significance of the triumphant campaign against the Marianas stronghold, experts agreed that it marks the major turning point and opens a vast new range of strategic possibilities for hastening Japan's doom. United Press correspondent Ernest Barcella reported.

They ranked it as one of the most important victories in the 31-month Pacific campaign.

Saipan, with its deepwater anchorages and its airfields gives

the United States a formidable advance base from which can be mounted mighty amphibious and air assaults aimed at the final goal—the Philippines and Japan proper. Both are virtually equidistant from Saipan, Tokyo lying 1,495 miles to the northwest and the Philippines 1,470 miles to the southwest.

With their vast range, it will be possible now for B-29 sky giants to take off from China, bomb Japan and continue to Saipan for refueling, reloading and return on another bombing trip. This not only will pave the way for aerial blitz warfare against Japan but will relieve the supply problem in China.

Naval facilities on Saipan are calculated to intensify the U. S. submarine campaign against Japanese shipping—the Achilles heel of the enemy—and will give American fleet units a substantial base from which to strike deeper in Oriental waters without overextending their supply lines. Saipan's airfields give the U. S. fleet "unsinkable carriers" from which warplanes can pro-

(Continued on page 8)

Truman Asks Civilian Output

WASHINGTON, July 10—Sen. Harry S. Truman (D., Mo.), chairman of the Senate War Investigating Committee, demanded yesterday that Donald M. Nelson's civilian goods program be started immediately, thereby seeking to end the impasse between the War Production Board and the armed services over the resumption of civilian production, it was reported from Washington.

Mr. Nelson is still convalescing from pneumonia and hence unable to sign personally the promised orders lifting the ban on civilian use of aluminum and permitting consumer goods manufacture where labor is available.

Air Bazookas Used On Japs

WASHINGTON, July 10—Dive bombers equipped with "flying bazookas" are being used with devastating effect against the Japanese, according to combat reports, the War Department revealed recently.

In attacking stationary targets, American pilots fire these rocket-type weapons one at a time but usually let loose with all their load when going after moving targets such as locomotives.

Red Army Near Prussian Soil

No Magazines

The War Department has directed that publication of material provided to The Stars and Stripes by Reader's Digest, Collier's and The Saturday Evening Post be discontinued immediately.

In line with the directive, no further supplements of the three magazines will appear.

Nazis Admit Vilna Cut Off

(See maps on Page 6)

MOSCOW, July 10—Red Army columns smashed to within 60 miles of East Prussia today and increased the fury of their attack on Vilna, key to the Nazi overland evacuation route from the Baltic states.

A German high command spokesman said Vilna had been cut off completely and that Nazi defenders were fighting behind barricades in the center of the city.

A Russian communique reported fresh sections of embattled Vilna had fallen to General Chernyakhovsky's men in savage street fighting with stubborn German defenders striving desperately to hold open an escape

Fifth Paced By U. S. Japs

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS, July 10—The 150-mile 5th and 8th Army fronts showed only slight advances against a determined enemy yesterday. A "significant wedge" was driven into the German defenses four miles north of Volterra, it was announced, but other reports were generalized accounts of continued hard fighting everywhere along the line.

In the west coast, sector where the Japanese-American 100th Battalion was spearheading the 42nd Regimental Combat Team's drive, there was some improvement against strong resistance. Eighty prisoners were taken in an advance north from Rosignano, where Field Marshal Albert von Kesselring has deployed the 36th SS Regiment and 9th Panzer Grenadier Regiment, neither of which has been reported in previous actions.

NEAR POMAJA

Eight miles inland 5th Army infantry moved into position to attack Pomaja, astride an important north-south road. The French forces of the 5th Army were meeting strong opposition across their entire front, and heavy fighting, into which the Germans had thrown 20 tanks, raged in the neighborhood of Ranza, on a

(Continued on page 8)

Tribute To America

LOS ANGELES, July 10—Dr. Wei Tao-Ming, Chinese ambassador to the United States, paid tribute here today to the "arsenal of democracy which is America and the spirit of victory which exists in the American people as they ceaselessly forge the weapons of war."

'What Flavor Will It Be?' New Foxhole Question

By a Staff Correspondent

WITH THE 5TH ARMY—Some hard-bitten front-line troops have been heard singing the praises of S-Sgt. Tom Tasa, Minneapolis. Sgt. Tasa is a mess sergeant with the 34th Division and recently he ordained what is probably the world's first foxhole curb service with ice cream as the piece de resistance.

As the "Red Bull" division advanced through Italy and the weather got as hot as the battle, Sgt. Tasa's thoughts naturally centered on ice cream. Italian civilians evidently were entertaining the same thoughts, because Sgt. Tasa soon noticed that more and more facilities for making the stuff were found in newly-captured towns.

With a crew composed of Cpl. Norman Walgast, Rochester, Minn.; Cpl. Matty Cardasco, Cliffside, N. J.; Pfc. Ellis Watkins, Red Oak, Okla., and Pfc. Joseph Powell, Cincinnati, it wasn't long before the Front-line Ice Cream Parlor De Luxe, Inc., was going full blast.

"Our first attempts went over so well with the men," Sgt. Tasa said, "we determined to keep making ice cream whenever possible." As the Germans fell back and the American infantrymen moved forward the problem of transportation became difficult, but the crew solved that problem.

"When the Jerries pulled out of the next town the ice cream crew went in and took over the best ice cream shop almost before the snipers were cleared out," Sgt. Tasa explained. "Of course, shortage of ice and vanilla sometimes became problems, too, but we whipped them by shutting down for a night and making our own ice and persuading Italians to give us some vanilla." "You know, there is only one thing missing to make this setup perfect," Sgt. Tasa said with a gleam in his eye. "If only we had one of those helicopters we could land right on the spot. That would save a lot of worry about the ice cream melting."

corridor for 40 divisions trapped in Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia.

The storm center of the Russian offensive, sweeping over 450 miles of sagging front, appeared headed for Grodno and Bialystok, guarding the approaches (Continued on page 8)

Air Support For Dogface

MAAF HEADQUARTERS, July 10—First Tactical Air Force planes, in much closer cooperation with ground forces than at any time since the breakthrough north of Rome, yesterday hammered gun positions and communications almost to the front lines, despite adverse weather conditions.

Arezzo, Marina di Pisa, and the areas around Pontassieve and Leghorn were main targets, but communications stemming from Bologna and Florence also were attacked by the fighter bombers. Medium bombers did not operate.

Coastal Air Force reported successful sweeps over Yugoslavia, against shipping in the Adriatic and, by Beaufighters, against oil barges in the Danube and other areas.

It was announced this morning that eight heavy bombers were lost in yesterday's raid on two Polish oil refineries, during which operation 14 enemy planes were destroyed.

Slavs May Pick New U. S. Envoy

WASHINGTON, July 10—Constantin Fotitch, Yugoslav ambassador to the United States, was expected to leave his post because of differences with the new government, the Associated Press reported today.

The new premier, Dr. Ivan Subasic, was reported to have announced from London some time ago that Fotitch was a Mihailovich supporter and would be asked to quit the ambassadorship.

1 YEAR AGO

Allies Invaded Sicily Beaches

ROME, July 10—A great amphibious force of landing craft moved into sandy beaches early this morning, following the descent of glider-borne infantry and parachute troops at 2210 hours last night—one year ago today. Higgins boats, carrying assault waves of Americans, Canadians and British, grating into sand bars and beaches and the infantry stormed ashore to capture the port towns of Licata, Gela and Syracuse. At 0800 hours, the Allied landings on the south and east coast of Sicily had been assured success.

German counterattacks by the Hermann Goering Division were repulsed in the days that followed, in the one month and seven days thereafter, the Allies drove north to capture Palermo, then east to take Messina while British forces were punching northward to meet them after the fall of Catania.

To the American 1st, 9th and 82nd Divisions, now fighting in France, to the 3rd and 45th Divisions now in Italy, to the British and Canadians who landed on the Yanks' right flank and to the Rangers everywhere—Happy Birthday.

De Gaulle In New York

WASHINGTON, July 10—General Charles de Gaulle has completed his discussions with President Roosevelt and with most of the United States government department chiefs in Washington. He was scheduled to fly to New York today where a round of ceremonies and receptions has been planned before he leaves for a brief visit to Canada.

Yesterday the Free French leader attended mass at a small Washington church. Immediately after the services he returned to Blair house where he has been staying and dispatched by messenger a present for President Roosevelt.

The gift is a working model of a submarine, about one and a half yards long, and so complicated that a set of instructions for its operation accompany it. The model was made in Tunis after the city's liberation and was presented there to General de Gaulle.

Woman Flyer Cited By Stalin

MOSCOW, July 10—A woman flyer, 31-year-old Yevdokia Bershanskaya, is in command of one of the crack Soviet air units now pounding the Germans on the White Russian front, a Reuters correspondent reported today.

The aviatrix, who holds the rank of lieutenant colonel, was cited in Marshal Stalin's order of the day on the capture of Mogilev and was the first woman to be so honored.

What's Cooking

"Egg In Your Beer." GI show with cast of 38, playing at Eliseo Theater on Via Nazionale, will close July 14. "Stars and Gripe," soldier musical, will open Saturday. Daily performances at 1130 and 1830 hours. No tickets necessary.

"Blithe Spirit," the Noel Coward Comedy, is at the Argentina Theater, near the Palazzo Venezia. No tickets required. Curtain time 1830 hours.

"Song of Bernadette," Super-Cinema, Via Nazionale. Three times daily: 1230, 1530, 1830.

Enlisted Men's Red Cross Club, Borghese Gardens:

Tuesday: 1815—U. S. Army Rest Center Orch.

Wednesday: 1815—U. S. Army Rest Center Orch.

Friday: 1800—231st Army Band. GI restaurants open 1130-1430; 1500-2030.

Ristorante Parma, 7 Via Parma.

Ristorante Roma, 38 Piazza Pop.

Ristorante Amelco, 17-19 Via Fabio Massimo.

Ristorante San Carlo, 120 Corso Umberto.

American Officers' Restaurant—Rupe Tarpeia, 13 Via Venetia.

VIEWS OF ROME VI: PEACE PRAYER IN ST. IGNATZ'



Dedicated to St. Ignatius, founder of the Jesuits, the church contains the largest piece of lapis lazuli in the world and one of the earliest pictures of America in Rome. This baroque church has an astonishing interior, more brilliant and confusing than any theater. On the ceiling is painted another church full of figures, so realistic that it looks like an aviary full of flying angels. Now in the church is the Madonna of Divine Love, to whom the Romans prayed for peace and the safety of the city during the Anzio beachhead.

Lost And Found

"Moose" is gone. He can't be found anywhere in the vicinity of his home field. His anxious masters have made extensive reconnaissance patrols through the alleys and by-ways of Targuina, but "Moose" has vacated. If you see a small black dog, whose ancestors could have been Scotties, but weren't, contact Lt. George Bollinger through this department.

The following items have been turned into Lost and Found. Owners may claim same at 11 Messaggero: six negatives from Photo Max showing a corporal and sergeant sitting near a tree and holding a pup; identification bracelet belonging to David Streger; bracelet with name, Seymour J. Rosenthal, 42036077, engraved on face.

The following articles have been reported lost:

Black leather wallet containing money, Allied papers, Capt. S. J. Marley.

Black leather wallet, identification, driver's license, 100 francs, Capt. Norman Silverman.

Dispatch case, name: "M. C. Bradley," containing 45 cal. pistol, candy, cigar and lipstick. Lost between Formia and Rome. Pvt. M. C. Bradley.

A brown leather wallet, between Grosseto and Rome. Contains money, T-Patch, combat infantry badge. Pvt. Claw Thomson.

Eastman Kodak No. 1, folding type, in brown leather case. The strap is broken and there's a bit of adhesive tape on the bellows. T-5 S. H. Freedman.

Left in a truck from Rome, one lady's purse and a man's wallet, containing papers and money. J. M. Freeman.

Argus C-3, left in Signal Corps jeep which gave Lt. W. A. Johnson a lift to Rome. Name stamped on brown leather carrying case.

Black wallet, lost in Rome.

Fus. Yates.

Seaman's passport, Coast Guard Pass and official Elks receipt, made out to Jesse W. Bazeman.

English made, brown leather wallet, containing personal papers. Pvt. Clifton Scheller.

Wyco waterproof wrist watch on railroad right of way, between Caserta and Cassino. Capt. Norman A. Converse.

African style, brown leather wallet, containing identifications and war bond receipts. S-Sgt. Delmar D. Canterbury.

Yellow leather American wallet, containing 40 dollars, pay book, address book and photos. Pfc. T. R. Beltran.

Val-o-pac, containing officers' clothing, on Route 1, between Rome and Arbetello Maj. Frank A. Winter.

Black leather engraved wallet, near Siena. W-O Irwin Young.

Dark green officer's trousers and gabardine shirt, with armored force patch; one field jacket with AF patch, lost on road between Galliano and Rome. Shirt and pants stamped Lt. L. O. Balch, O-1013718.

"Any member of the 16th Academic Squadron, of Chicago Schools, please contact Sgt. David Nadler. It's important in regards to the anticipated reunion." Address Sgt. Nadler through Lost and Found.

Parents Learn 3 Sons Missing

TONAWANDA, N. Y., July 10—Three times since June 6—D-day—Mr. and Mrs. Michael I. Niland have received telegrams stating, "The Secretary of War desires me to express his deep regret that your son has been reported missing in action."

On June 6 they were advised that their eldest boy, T-Sgt. Edward F. Niland, 31, aerial gunner, had been missing since May 20 in the Burma theater.

Then on June 21 came word that Preston T. Niland, 29, a lieutenant in the infantry amphibious forces, had been missing in France since June 7.

Last Thursday Mrs. Niland, with tear-filled eyes, read the words: Robert J. Niland, 25, paratroop sergeant, had been missing since D-day in France.

The Nilands have another son in the armed services, Frederick W. Niland, 24, also a paratroop sergeant.

Just Ring For Uncle Sam Now

WASHINGTON, July 10—Half a million GI babies are expected to make their debut during the next year at Uncle Sam's expense.

That many infants and their mothers will be cared for under the emergency maternity and infant care program for which Congress has appropriated \$2,300,000 dollars, Katherine F. Lenroot, chief of the Children's Bureau, estimated yesterday.

Wallace Foresees North Pacific 'Era'

SEATTLE, July 10—"Trade with Russia and China will help keep the factories of America busy in the days that lie ahead," Vice President Henry A. Wallace declared today in a nationwide broadcast following his arrival here after seven weeks in China and Siberian Russia.

Mr. Wallace laid particular stress on postwar cooperation and development of resources in lands bordering the north Pacific Ocean. He said that the postwar period would be known as "the era of the Pacific," and added that the national future of America requires the maintenance of an international air route from North America through Alaska to the Siberian Orient and to Europe in cooperation with the Chinese and Russian people.

NORTHWEST DEVELOPMENT

The development of the northwest area—Alaska, western Canada and western United States—should be a matter of national policy, he declared.

Mr. Wallace said he would talk Tuesday with President Roosevelt to report "certain definite facts which I am not at liberty to discuss here."

Many of the things he found on his trip surprised him, Mr. Wallace said, including a scientific apple industry at Alma Ata, his last stop in Siberia before entering China and a thriving motion picture industry which promises to make that city the Hollywood of central Asia. Alma Ata is situated at the foot of Tien Shan—"Heavenly Mountains."

Mr. Wallace concluded with the thought that American business men of tomorrow must think in terms of a broad world outlook and that with it "American economic leadership will confer on the Pacific region great material benefit and on the world a great blessing."

Same Crew Flew Wilkie In 1942

SEATTLE, July 10—Vice President Wallace, who arrived here yesterday on his return from a mission to China, traveled to Chungking and back with the same Army transport crew who took Wendell Wilkie around the world in 1942.

His homeward trip came close to being delayed by scarlet fever at Edmonton, Alberta, when co-pilot Lt. William Gokowski fell victim to the disease and was quarantined. The vice president and others in the party were allowed to proceed under observation.

Col. Richard Knight, commander of Morrison Field at West Palm Beach, Fla., was pilot of the transport. Capt. John O. Wagner, Lakeville, Ind., navigator, described the vice president as "a crewman who worked just as hard as the pilot to get us here and back." Col. Knight said Mr. Wallace was "a fine passenger" and stood the trip well.

The co-pilot who succeeded Lt. Gokowski on the run in from Edmonton was Capt. O. Howard, Eau Claire, Wis. Other crew members were:

M-Sgt. James M. Cooper, Philadelphia; T-Sgt. David Minkoff, Blackwood, N. J., who served as Russian interpreter for the party; T-Sgt. Richard J. Barrett, Washington, D. C., and Sgt. Roderick W. Robitaille, Jamaica, L. I. Owen Lattimore of OWI and John Carter Vincent of the State Department's Chinese section were other members of the party.

Newsmen See Dewey Farm

PAWLING, N. Y., July 10—New York newsmen yesterday inspected the farm residence of Gov. Thomas E. Dewey who posed for photographs picking cherries, the Associated Press reported.

The reporters and lensmen found a comfortable country residence and immaculately clean dairy barns on the GOP presidential candidate's farm of 468 acres two miles northeast of Pawling. The colonial style week-end place has 12 rooms and four baths.

Mrs. Dewey prompted the governor as he related that he keeps 90 cows and raises 40 percent of his feed, built the new silo and repaired the hay barns. It is an historic farm, Mrs. Dewey said, declaring that George Washington spent a winter with his troops there.

Gov. Dewey leaves the farm management to Charles Friermer who farms on shares. Gardener Fred Stohl looks after the lawn, and feeds the chicken. A victory garden supplies the family with vegetables.

Paper Legal, O'Daniel Says

WASHINGTON, July 10—Sen. W. Lee O'Daniel (D., Texas), today termed an investigation into the source of newspaper for his anti-New Deal weekly, "New Deal shenanigans" and declared he is "ready for them if they want to start anything."

The senator said "this is a fight to the finish for a free press" and insisted he had violated none of WPB's newsprint regulations.

"I obtained the paper through regular channels and violated none of their rulings in so doing," he declared. The four-page weekly, "W. Lee O'Daniel News," appeared last Tuesday for the first time since 1941. The senator said the paper is being circulated in 45 states and that he has enough paper to publish 100,000 copies weekly for a full year.

Death Toll At 33

JELICO, Tenn., July 10—The number of known deaths in the wreck of a troop train near here last Thursday came to 33, when rescue workers extricated eight bodies Sunday night.

Jap Defenses Weakening

WASHINGTON, July 10—Japanese inability to put up an effective defense over some of their most vital homeland areas is being emphasized by airmen studying the latest records of the Super-Fortress attacks, the Associated Press reported yesterday.

Such absence of defense, military men here suggested, might indicate that the important element of surprise was attained due to a lack of adequate specialized air defense equipment—night fighters and detectors—over the homeland areas.

It was thought that the Nips, flushed with early successes and offensive-minded moved most of their equipment to the perimeters of their gains at the expense of home areas. In the attack of June 15 at Yawata the only bomber to fall in the target area was shot down by ack-ack, and no B-29s were reported lost in the latest attack.

Lame Boy Aided 300 To Safety

HARTFORD, Conn., July 10—A lame boy with a jack-knife saved an estimated 300 lives in the disastrous circus fire last Thursday, his uncle, Axel Carlson, New Britain, Conn., related yesterday.

As shouts of "fire" swept through the tent, 13-year-old Donald Anderson and his uncle were seated far back in the bleachers. The boy dropped to the lower tier of seats and wriggled under the tent to safety. Then whipping out a knife he had purchased that day, he slashed the canvas tent wall through which streamed trapped women and children and men, including Uncle Axel. Donald also ran to other parts of the tent and cut holes.

THE STARS AND STRIPES (Mediterranean)

Daily newspaper of the U. S. Army Forces published Mondays through Saturdays for troops in Italy.
Publications Officer, Col. Egbert White; Editor, Capt. Robert Neville; Executive Editor, Sgt. Hilary H. Lyons; Business Manager, Capt. Robert J. Christenson.

Office: 152 Via del Tritone, in the Il Messaggero building, Rome. Telephone: Col. White, 43043; Capt. Christenson, 42543; Editorial, 43041. Circulation, 470640.

Acknowledgment is made of the editorial services supplied by the United Nations News Service and the Army News Service.

The Stars and Stripes is printed at the plant of Il Messaggero, 152 Via del Tritone, Rome.

Vol. 1, No. 31

Tuesday, July 11, 1944

STAFF

Sgt. David Golding, Milt Lehman, Al Kohn, Paul Green, Bill Mauldin, Cyril Hopper, Stanley Meltzoff, Ray Reynolds, Jack Raymond, Cpls. Robert Fleisher, Wade Jones, Pvt. Edmund F. Hogan, John Lawler.

-- MAIL CALL --

In The Same Boat

Dear Editor:

I'm not very good at writing articles, but I'll try my best. I was wounded in action on the night of May 11 when we and other American divisions pushed the Jerries quite a ways with the great help of our Allies, and I was sent to a hospital for treatment. It was then that the 88th Division started to get a few write-ups which they well deserve.

The point I'm getting at is that men in other divisions started to squawk. You'd hear them say, "We've been in many landings, overseas longer, and that if any division deserves write-ups it's ours." They ought to be thankful that they have some help.

The 88th loses men like any other front-line division. We're not out for glory, but just to get this war over and go back home. Anyone ought to know that the more help you get, the quicker the war will end. In my opinion the 88th Division is good. But don't get me wrong. I didn't say best. So far you fellows on the lines: Don't let any rumors get you, we're all in the same boat.

—Pfc. Michael Bertzos

Correspondence

Dear Editor:

I know definitely it is not permissible to correspond with Italians in Allied conquered territory. Why is it not permitted? Yet we GIs can correspond with civilians in North Africa. Can you solve this problem that has me perplexed?

—Pvt. James J. Ziccardi

At present, according to postal authorities, the Italian provincial mail system is still unable to handle a large volume of civilian mail which would result if GIs were permitted to write to Italian friends in southern Italy.—Editor.

Light-Heavy

Dear Editor:

I would like to know the name of the light-heavyweight champion of the world. Also, who played the part of the American flyer in "Bomber's Moon," and what role did Kent Taylor handle?

—Pvt. Joseph Tata

The N. Y. Athletic Commission credits Gus Lesnevich, 175 lbs, with the light-heavyweight crown. Perhaps someone can help Pvt. Tata with his screen quiz, we have no records available.—Editor.

Resentment M-1

Dear Editor:

In today's (July 3) issue of the Stars and Stripes I and my three mates read of the article stating "Enlisted men not wanted." Never before have I written to Mail Call, but I feel that this is one time when I should have my say about the thing. It's just things like that which make the boys over here so bitter against certain things taking place back home.

Just what do those people think we are over here for? A vacation, or something? It's a pretty thing when an EM veteran goes back to God's Country and then gets turned down flat by someone who probably doesn't even know there's a war being fought.

If we have to look forward to things such as this, then we might just as well not go home.

—Pvt. J. Boyce

Our Gal Sal

Dear Editor:

In our sleeping quarters each night, we all sit around the radio, waiting for "Sally from Berlin" to come on. L'il Sally thinks she is knocking our morale down in our socks, but with us and all others who listen in, it is very much the other way around. She provides us the best radio entertainment on the dial.

Her good hep music and humor is about the only American program we can get and we sure enjoy it. Her voice is so romantic, it is actually funny. Her wit and humor about how lonely we are and how the wife and girl friends can't be trusted brings many a laugh from our boys. We actually feel in better spirits after listening to Sally try to knock them down.

—T-Sgt. Bataille

Soldier's Pay

Dear Editor:

We read in a recent "Stars and Stripes" about hazard pay for the infantry, and also about the "expert infantry" in the States drawing it.

Our hats are off to the infantry over here. We know from personal experience about the job they are doing and conditions. We have been right with them, and we're no rear echelon commandos.

What we want to know is why the "expert infantry commandos" in the USA get hazard pay for fighting USO lines, dances, etc?

—T-5 Albert R. Maxwell
Pfc. James L. Owens

Pup tent Poets

Courage

What makes a man feel fear?
When his heart knows right from wrong.
Is it the thought of self-preservation?

The wonderful feeling of "not knowing"
To audaciously step where angels fear to tread
But when your buddies have fallen by the wayside
How often this scene doth run through your head.

A medal, a decoration, a formal presentation
To proclaim the daring deeds of martyrdom.
But when reverie permits of past recollection,
What ruthlessness, what stupidity, this all came from.

Who, once hailed as hero, doesn't feel himself coward at times?

How thin the line that defines the act
How oft the motive of courage is that of cowardice.
"Oh, God, give us the grit to stick to our pact."

That day is not far distant, when man to man
Each human shall offer his hand in friendship
When medals and bravery shall live in the past
And from the common cup of courage we will all take a sip.
—Capt. Sidney J. Kopet

Star Rhapsody

While the color scheme of day fades to shadows, then to night—
There in solitude, I lay
And watch the faint starlight.

Venus reigns there, so aloof,
While Orion pours his love.
Sincere, relentlessly in truth,
He struggles on above.

Like millions of sparkling sequins,
That cling to a lady's gown,
They descend the radiant star-beam
Slowly twinkling down.

This goes on till early morn,
When the spangles fade away,
A memory not to lightly scorn,
But one to praise each day.

—Private In A Foxhole

To A Latin

If I could write like Johnny Keats, or Burns,
Or Blake, or Byron
I'd turn you out some tuneful treats . . .
My dark, delightful Siren.

Heck, I can't write like one of those
A tribute true and tender,
Cause, my dear, as you suppose,
My wife . . . it might offend her.
—Pfc. Milton Dagger

They Say...

JAPANESE RADIO:

"In France, the Allied armies are retreating haphazardly inland."

HIGH FRENCH OFFICIALS in Algiers:

"This talk of bumping off everybody who has been playing ball with Vichy, is a lot of . . . how do you say it . . . bodewash! C'est de la merde."

STATE TROOPER G. F. RANDALL, telling how he watched the spiral-shaped cone of a tornado sweep across a hill toward the building housing the West Virginia State Police radio station:

"As it got closer I could see it was filled with wood, trees, and outhouses. It seemed to be coming directly toward me. I was so damned interested I never moved."

BERLIN RADIO:

"The first refugees driven from the South English coast by our new pilotless planes have arrived on the Belgian and French coasts."

NINTH AIR FORCE PILOT, describing fighter plane attacks against German flying bombs:

"Doodle-bug hunting is fun; they can't shoot back."

HENRY MORGENTHAU, JR., Secretary of the Treasury, addressing a War Bond rally in Chicago:

"America is great only if it puts the purpose of war before the war itself. Your bond is a sign of your part in that purpose."

THE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK, on returning to London from a visit to the United States and Canada:

"There is no doubt that the States are heart and soul in the war . . . We should, however, be very unwise to assume that they will necessarily cooperate with us in the settlement of the world when the actual fighting is over."

Postwar Draft Favored in U.S.

WASHINGTON — Both Congress and public opinion lean toward extending compulsory military training in peacetime, according to the results of a symposium conducted by Edward A. Harris, Washington correspondent for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

About 2,000,000 men a year would be called up under either of two bills now pending in Congress. One of the measures would draft youths for one year of training within three years after their 18th birthday. Upon completing their training, the draftees would be placed in reserve status for four more years, during which time they might be called up for additional refresher courses.

UP FRONT

... By MAULDIN



"We oughta tell 'em th' whole army don't look like us, Joe."

Public Sees War Through WD Movies

NEW YORK—The American public is being given more and more opportunities to see what combat is really like through the medium of motion pictures filmed at the fighting fronts.

The latest celluloid record of a combat operation to be released to the public is the War Department film "Attack!" the complete story of the successful American amphibious assault on Arawe and Cape Gloucester on New Britain Island. This 54-minute picture, filmed by Signal Corps and Air Force combat cameramen, has been given enthusiastic reviews by critics, with the New York Times placing its review on the front page, an unprecedented procedure.

"Attack" is especially valuable, not only for its realism, but because it also gives the home front an idea of how a combat operation is planned and how it progresses.

It is still too early to judge conclusively the home front reaction to "Attack." At any showing you can sense an almost audible intake of breath by the audience at some of the scenes of men falling under sniper fire, men with ugly wounds, and men lying not dead but exhausted.

But most audiences seem to take the film with eyes wide open. "More people should see

this," is a remark heard time after time as audiences leave theaters.

The Globe Theater, one of three New York movie houses showing the picture as part of a double bill, received more than 600 calls in three days asking for the specific starting time of "Attack!" However, attendance has only been normal, the theater said.

Another factual war film well received was "Memphis Belle," a picturization of a Flying Fortress and its crew. The earliest of this type of production were "Tunisian Victory" and its predecessor, "Desert Victory."

The growing demand for a realistic picture of the war is also being answered by the newsreels, who, using a lot of the Army Pictorial Service film as well as their own pooled output, turned out a 15-minute account of the Allied landings in Normandy that drew the news-hungry public into theaters in larger numbers than Lana Turner does.

The landings at Tarawa were another historic accomplishment for the newsreels.

These and other films showing the price of victory are also being shown at war plants and in connection with the sale of war bonds, just to remind the home front that victory can not be had at bargain prices.

Campaign Leaders Keep Eye On Ladies

WASHINGTON—For the first time in the nation's history, women this year are in position—statistically at least—to swing a presidential election, according to a report released by the Census Bureau.

The report asserted that there are now 88,666,555 United States citizens of voting age—an increase of more than 8,000,000 since the 1940 elections. The bureau also noted that:

"Women of voting age now for the first time exceeded men of voting age by nearly 600,000."

Eligible to vote are 44,622,886 women and 44,043,669 men. Of the men voters, 7,860,000 currently are serving in the armed forces, according to the Census Bureau. In 1940, the voting strength was in favor of the men by

359,420. Now, the women have the edge by 579,217.

Issued to assist "political students" in their efforts to forecast 1944 election trends, the report did not attempt to forecast how many of the nation's men and women in uniform will vote in the November elections.

"It is impossible," the report also said, "to establish a statistical basis for an estimate of the effect of migration of war workers on this year's vote."

For those who are interested in using the 1940 election returns as background for this year's vote, the bureau revealed that 62.4 percent of all Americans of voting age cast a ballot in the last presidential election, the total being 49,815,312. If Americans were to vote in the same proportion this year, the 1944 total vote would be 55,327,930.

Both major political parties appear to have recognized the increasing importance of the female vote, with women being placed on many important convention committees and shouldering some of the arduous tasks around political headquarters.

Dartboard Shortage

LONDON, July 10—The boys in the back room have real cause to cry in their beer. There's a shortage of dartboard. Pubs no longer can replace their boards, and the new-fangled ones don't have the staying power of the cork type.

It Happened On The Home Front

Nudists, Politics, Beans, Skeezeix And Junior Gls

Caught Barehanded, etc.

SAN FRANCISCO—Two hundred nudists, wearing only startled expressions when OPA agents walked into their Sonoma County camp 40 miles from here, were trying to explain how they reached the retreat on a card gasoline ration. The members came from 27 California towns and as far away as Oregon to frolic and sun bathe.

As many as 220 drive to the retreat weekly, the agents said. Officials also asked the camp owners to explain nonregistration under rental area regulations.

Laissez Faire

BUFFALO—Flat prediction that U. S. railroading will not be revolutionized after the war as some pipe dreamers have expected was made by Robert S. Henry, presidential assistant of the Association of American Railroads.

'More Control'

ENDICOTT, N. Y.—Henry Ford, II, said at a Chamber of Commerce meeting here that more "government control" after the war will be necessary for the automobile industry. He pointed out that extended control will be needed "so that people and industry won't be running around every which way."

Actress-Mothers

HOLLYWOOD—Actress Maureen O'Hara gave birth this week to a daughter and singer Rise Stevens of the Metropolitan Opera became the mother of a son on June 30.

Anti-Prohibition

HOBOKEN, N. J.—War Production Board Chairman Donald M. Nelson disclosed last week that he had turned a deaf ear to repeated proposals that he use his wartime emergency powers to force prohibition on the nation. In a speech read at the Stevens Institute of Technology, Mr. Nelson revealed that instead of listening to the prohibition suggestions, he intended to restore full liquor production as soon as wartime economy permits.

Button, Button

WASHINGTON—One of America's most cherished institutions—the campaign button—is in grave danger of becoming a war casualty. In a hot campaign year, this will bring sorrow to a nation incurably addicted to decorating lapels with celluloid circles every four years.

The War Production Board says that it has no idea of prohibiting campaign buttons. But: no

restricted materials, including iron and steel; no plastic materials including celluloid; and no copper or brass may be used. That leaves just one unrestricted material—paper. Perhaps the old 1936 sunflower fringed buttons can be face-lifted.

White Memorial

NEW YORK—An illuminated parchment memorial to the late William Allen White, Emporia, Kan., Gazette editor, describing him as a "wise judge of merit in newspapers and books," has been especially designed at Columbia University and sent to his widow. The memorial was executed by direction of the Advisory Board of Pulitzer Prizes, Journalistic Awards, at Columbia.

Boat Crashes

NEW YORK—High winds and flood tide caused the municipal ferryboat Mary Murray to crash into a piling at the South Ferry slip. Twenty-nine of the 2,000 passengers aboard were hospitalized for observation.

Kid Stuff

FREDERICK, Md.—Boys who play at soldiers like enemy souvenirs just as much as the soldiers themselves. Four little boys here got a lecture in court and something worse at home when they were caught with Jap and kraut rifles, helmets and machine guns which they had lifted from unguarded freight cars enroute to an Army salvage depot with captured enemy materiel.

Short Snorter

WASHINGTON—Consider Pfc. Eunice Shepard, Danbury, Conn., of the United States Marine Corps Women's Reserve. Pfc. Shepard reported for duty not so long ago to Sgt. Allen Krohn at the New York Navy Yard in Brooklyn, after having completed her boot training at Camp Lejeune, New River, N. C. As she snapped to attention in front of the sergeant, her eyes swept the room where seven or eight marines sat behind their desks. "I joined the Marines to free a man to fight," said the forthright Pfc. Shepard. "Who's leaving?"

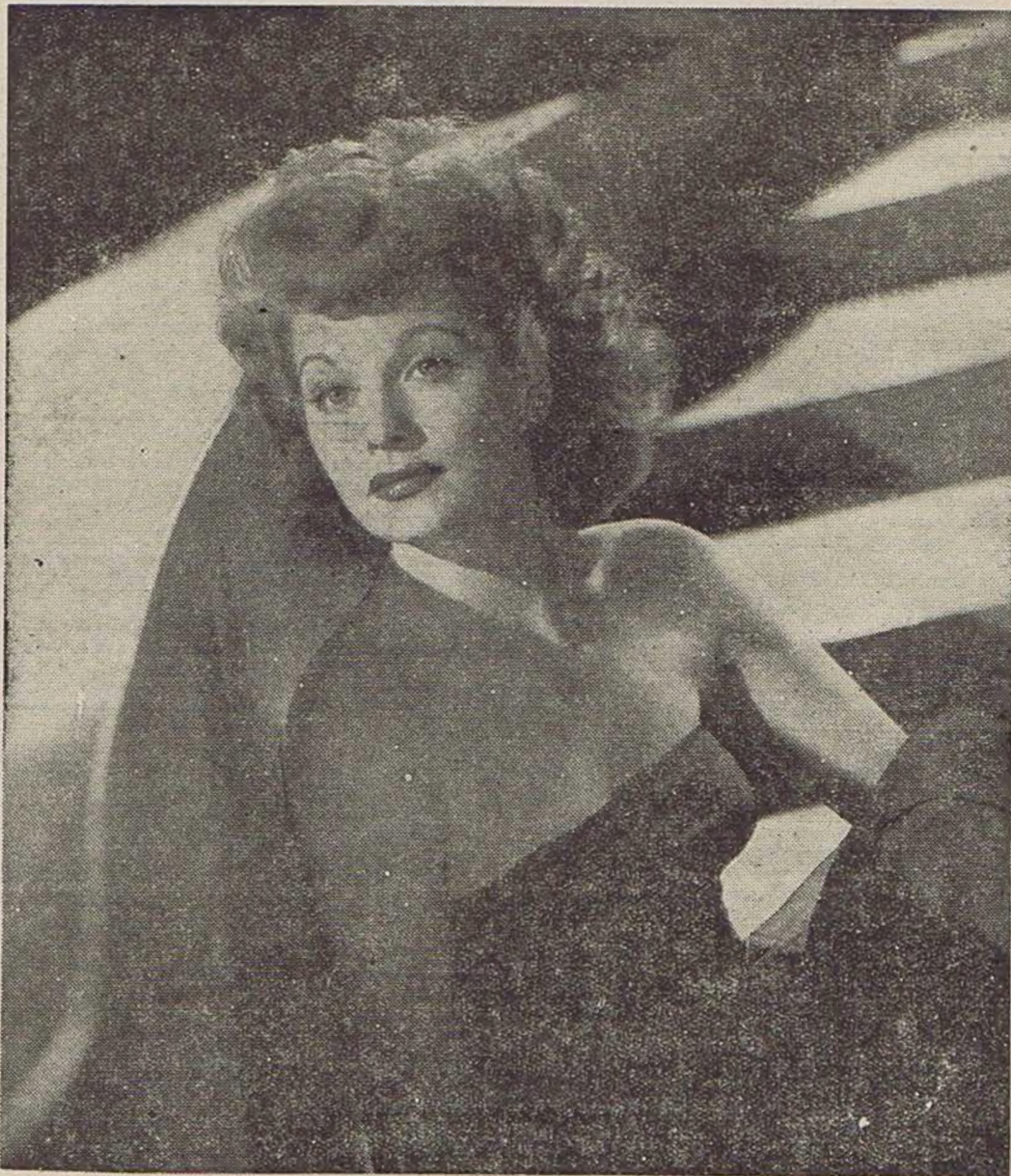
Lucky Broadway

WASHINGTON—The New York metropolitan area will be among the "more fortunate regions of the nation" in avoiding a depression in the postwar transitional period, a Department of Commerce survey predicted this week. Apple peddlers may be entirely unknown on Broadway, government experts

Broadway To Hollywood

Eddie Garr, the fast-talking comic who does a satire on Frank (Stop Your're killing me.) Sinatra in his New York Roxy Theater stage show, was snowed under by a pile of anonymous letters threatening worse than death if he didn't stop kidding "our Frankie boy" . . . Jane Russell, who quit pictures after one appearance, is coming back to Hollywood with her husband, Bob Waterfield, who was honorably discharged for injuries he suffered while playing football at UCLA . . . Alan Chase, author of "Falange," expose of Franco Spain, has finished another novel entitled "Five Arrows" about Falange activity in South America . . . "Abe Lincoln" becomes a Yankee lawyer when actor Raymond Massey opens rehearsals next month for a new play, "Mr. Tutt," by Arthur Train. Massey not only will act in the vehicle but will share production honors with Guthrie McClintic . . . Dolores and Bob Hope plan to adopt another infant next Christmas . . . Billie Burke, widow of the late Flo Zeigfield, hit the subway circuit off Broadway in a comedy labeled "Mrs. January and Mr. Ex," and added to her baggage a personal pink pot of petunias and a private supply of mountain water in quart bottles; nobody knows why . . . Look for the Russians to jump into the movie business in a big way after the war. A Soviet purchasing commission is now in Hollywood negotiating for better than 2,000,000 dollars worth of equipment for Russian film production . . . Tough guy John Garfield, back home after his tour of the Mediterranean Theater, wants to tour the Pacific bases . . . Darryl Zanuck's "Wilson," a film biography of the World War I President, will open in New York instead of Washington, Twentieth Century-Fox has decided. Reason: To avoid charges of political propaganda . . . What price the upper brackets? Blues singer Lena Horne, who was singing for carfare two years ago picked up 5,000 dollars and a 1,500-dollar bonus recently for a week at New York's Orpheum Theater. She also lost her hubby, Louis A. Jones, who won an uncontested divorce and the custody of a 4-year-old son in Columbus, Ohio. Lena will keep 5-year-old daughter Gale Jones with her.

Presenting . . . Lucille Ball



IT'S BEEN A GOOD WEEK. The Russians have made some astonishing gains and there is nothing wrong with the Normandy beachhead. In Italy the 5th Army continues to press forward. On the home front there is Miss Lucille Ball.

Sgt. Skeezeix Takes A Wife

NEW YORK—One of America's best-known young men took the plunge last week. Skeezeix, central character of Frank King's "Gasoline Alley," was married to Nina Clock, the blonde farm girl he met in high school.

Skeezeix first appeared as a founding 23 years ago, and has the distinction of being the only comic strip character to age with the years. Now an ordnance sergeant, Skeezeix goes back to camp after his honeymoon furlough ends. Nina goes back to her war plant job, and creator King continues to turn out one of the best sellers among all comic strips. Latest figures showed the strip appearing in 126 dailies with a total circulation of 12,000,000.

been missing in action over France since June 3.

"It was on this same day in 1942 that my other son, William Read Randolph, 20 was killed in a plane crash while taking civilian pilot courses," Mrs. Randolph said. "I wish they had never been invented," she repeated. "They are good for nothing but destruction."

Capt. William M. Randolph, her husband, was killed in an air crash in 1928.

School Burns Down

CLEVELAND—A spectacular fire partly destroyed Dunham Elementary School, a 61-year-old landmark. Thousands of persons watched the fire in the school, which is across the street from the American League baseball park. One of the oldest schools in the city, the building was unoccupied because of the summer recess.

New Oil Well

PONCA CITY, Okla.—The Continental Oil Company has announced the discovery of oil in a

wildcat well in the Osh Creek area of Wyoming, and officials were hopeful that it might open up a new field.

The well is in Niobrara County, Wyo., about four miles from the nearest producing well and ten miles from the nearest producing area of any consequence. The new well was making 184 barrels of 42.3 gravity oil in eight hours, from Dakota sand at 2,847 feet.

Best Plays

NEW YORK—"The Voice of the Turtle" by John Von Druten was selected as the best play of the 1943-44 season by Billboard, theatrical trade publication, in announcing its first annual Donaldson awards. Margaret Sullivan, star of the play, and Paul Robeson, of "Othello," were selected for outstanding lead performances. "Carmen Jones" was chosen as the best in the musical comedy field, and Moss Hart, for "Winged Victory," won the best direction award.

Deepest Oil Well

GIRVIN, Texas—The world's deepest well—15,279 feet—has been completed by the Phillips Petroleum Company after 21 1-2 months of drilling. The process required 477 bits.

Metal For Oscars

HOLLYWOOD—For three years the movie world has been honoring its greats with ersatz "Oscars" because of the ban on the use of critical metals. The Motion Picture Academy of Arts and Sciences has been notified that gold leaf is once more available, however, and the 1944 winners will get bonafide gold-covered statues.

Girdles

WASHINGTON—The girdle situation is critical. In fact it is contributing to the labor shortage, according to Mary Anderson of the U. S. Department of Labor. She reports that women are leaving jobs in war factories because of the lack of supporting garments.

Beans Can Be Fatal

BREMERTON, Wash.—Beans caused the death of J. C. O'Hair, a shipyard worker from Paris, Ill. He was asphyxiated by smoke from a pot of beans that had burned dry while he was asleep on a sofa in his apartment.

Bugs Gas Works

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—This city is negotiating to purchase the Louisville Gas and Electric Company in a deal which would be the largest municipal ownership transaction in the nation's history, Mayor Wilson W. Wyatt revealed recently.

The estimated price of the utility is 85,000,000 dollars. City officials figure that power distribution would net Louisville about 3,000,000 dollars a year, more than enough to account for the half million in taxes levied against the company now.

DeWitt Dies

CLEVELAND—Theodore DeWitt, 64, who rose from a Bowery porter to become one of the country's most prominent hotelmen, died aboard a train enroute here. He was president of the DeWitt-operated hotels and executive manager of Cleveland's Hotel Hollenden.

Second Randolph

SAN ANTONIO, Texas—Mrs. William Randolph, widow of the Army flyer for whom the famous Randolph Field was named, said this week she wished airplanes "had never been invented."

She made this statement after receiving word that her son, 2nd Lt. Benjamin D. Randolph, had

TO WIN THE WAR

Inventors Turn Out Rat Bombers, TNT Sausages, Vitamin Leaflets

By Sgt. JACK FOISIE
Stars and Stripes U. S. Bureau

NEW YORK—"I got an idea how to win the war."

It seems that a lot of American people are lying awake nights trying to think of ways to end the war sooner. Civilian ideas for "secret weapons" continue to percolate at a terrific rate, with more inventors being born per minute than you can throw a monkey wrench at.

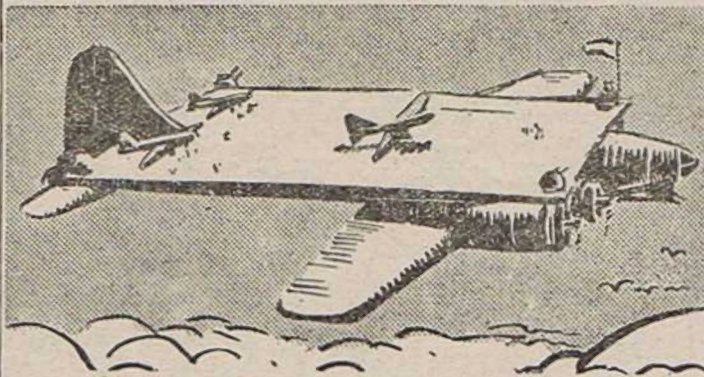
The greater percentage doesn't pay off, but some of the ideas do. So the National Inventors Council, the National Resources Council and the various industrial firms look over all of the letters flooding their offices. Many improvements, shortcuts and some new production setups have come from these victory-inspired enthusiasts.

Technical improvements brought about by the War Department's "Ideas for Victory" program, for example, will save the taxpayers a lot of money. In the four months of the program, 29,795 ideas were submitted by War Department employees, of which 2,676 were adopted; these ideas alone will save more than 1,000,000 dollars annually in addition to conserving man hours, according to Ricard E. Muesel, chairman of the War Department Board on Civilian Awards.

NEW DRAWERS

One quartermaster improvement will be of particular interest to Mediterranean GIs come this winter. One of the three sets of eyelets have been eliminated from the back of drawers, woolen, OD. It was shown by the suggester that the third set, which was placed below the waist band, would occasionally pull and tear the material.

Mrs. Marie Feagan Duffey, mother of a sergeant overseas and herself an ordnance inspector in a Chicago plant manufacturing fire control equipment, asked one day: "Why paint a piece of equipment olive drab and then leave the manufacturer's flashy nameplate uncovered?" Authorities thought Mrs. Duffey's question made sense, had the name plates re-



The Piggyback Plane

moved or neutralized, and presented her with an Award of Merit and a check for 25 dollars.

'SECRET WEAPONS'

Not all civilian ideas, of course, are realistic, especially ideas of how to eliminate the enemy. You may be interested in these civilian-inspired "secret weapons" but they are not recommended:

(1) Bombing of the enemy with cages of live rats and rattlesnakes; (2) TNT sausages; (3) dummy sheep dropped by parachute to set off mines and (4) dummy crows controlled by radio to bomb the enemy.

The most humanitarian idea suggested was the printing of propaganda pamphlets on rice paper. The paper would be impregnated with vitamins so that the people of occupied countries would not only receive messages of hope but food as well.

The Boeing Aircraft Company revealed that some of the ideas it receives would shock the enemy—and aerodynamicists as well.

One was a plane controlled by a clockwise spinning tail, which not only steered the plane but when it wound down would cause the plane to explode, like the German pilotless bomb. Another idea envisioned the B-17 as a flying aircraft carrier, from which "baby" bombers could refuel and reload. Another duty of the bomber would be to tow

its fighter plane escort so they could save gas until attacked.

Radical plane designs came in at the rate of one per day to Boeing: planes with wings that curve like those of a bird; wings that slide forward when the plane is taking off and then go back to a normal position when the plane is airborne; planes with an extra pair of wings.

Yet with all the dreaming and scheming, the Army and Navy are still looking for inventors who can answer these military problems:

LIFE RAFTS

A method to insure inflation of life rafts in 30 seconds under any temperature; simply decoy devices to confuse and mislead the enemy; a procedure for destroying and removing obstacles prior to beach landing operations; a method to enable an aviator or an aerial camera to distinguish between an artificial or a natural green; protection of soldiers against flame throwers; a method of generating stable artificial fogs and of dispersing artificial and natural fogs.

A method of controlling fires in fighting tanks long enough to allow evacuation of personnel; a method of protecting vehicles from enemy land mines; a method of protecting people forced down into the freezing waters of the North Atlantic, and a way to protect airplane tires from the scuffing they receive in landing.

U. S. Hens Come Across

When the Government called for more agricultural products 389,469,000 patriotic U. S. hens squawked but settled down to do their stuff. Long before last week the result was embarrassingly scrambled. Every U. S. hen, in effect, easily won an E for egg production. Cackling happily, the hens went on to such fabulous overproduction that the whole country was practically walking on eggs. The War Food Administration, which had been frantically storing eggs everywhere but in its desks, was thoroughly alarmed.

In May happy hens set a new production record of more than six and one-half billion eggs. In 1,400 freight cars on midwestern sidings last week were stacked 25,000,000 dozen eggs, getting more dubious by the day. WFA was desperately digging out. A press-radio campaign begging housewives to buy more eggs had only fair results. For one thing, housewives could not understand why the egg price had to stay up at 55 cents a dozen, when millions of eggs were going bad for lack of buyers. Then WFA sold 100 of the piled-up carloads at 30 dollars each for livestock feed.

Critics saw a major scandal. Why, they demanded, were eggs that WFA had bought for something like 6,000 dollars a carload dumped as cattle feed rather than dehydrated and stored? WFA gave a hurried answer: Both processing plants and storage houses were awash with eggs. The eggs sold for feed were unfit for human consumption but would relieve a critical feed shortage; Congress had directed WFA to support floor prices. If the agency quit, egg prices would sag to 15 or 20 cents, putting many a henry out of business. Then, during the normal winter slump, prices might rocket to nearly two dollars. WFA's job is to maintain the farmer's basic average price of 30 cents. To do this it had to buy up 5,000,000 cases of eggs between January and June of this year, as against a mere 31,000 cases for the same period in 1943. The crisis will soon be past, WFA says, and the agency hopes the hens will observe the seasonable slump.

sounding views," the Supreme Court has ruled.

The unanimous opinion, delivered by Justice Felix Frankfurter, reversed the cancellation of the citizenship of Carl Wilhelm Baumgartner, a German-born citizen, who had written in his diary that Hitler's speeches were "wonderful," allegedly rejoiced at the Nazi capture of Dunkirk, criticized President Roosevelt's speeches and expressed anti-Semitic views.

Baumgartner's citizenship, granted in 1932, was cancelled in 1942 by the Western Missouri Federal District Court. A German army officer, he was taken prisoner by the British in the first World War.

Stoop To Conquer

GREENVILLE, Pa. — Camp Reynolds has placed a wooden bar across the entrance to its mess hall with the words "Buy More War Bonds Or Stoop" written across it. The bar is gradually raised as more bonds are purchased.

Allied Network

WASHINGTON — A triangular radio network connecting Italy, Britain and Russia is functioning successfully as an aid in the operation of the new U. S. bases in Russia, it was disclosed recently. The installations were completed May 1 and less than a week after they went into operation the first shuttle raid from Italy took place.

'Incurable Bachelor'

HOLLYWOOD — Rudy Vallee has had another wife run out on him, this time for "cruel and inhuman treatment without provocation." Bette Jane Greer, his estranged wife, called him an "incurable bachelor" in papers which led to the final decree.

Citizens' Rights

WASHINGTON — A naturalized citizen has as much right as a native-born American to criticize public men and measures and express "silly or even sinister-

Soldier Vote

CHICAGO — Suit by three overseas service men to compel the State of Illinois to count federal ballots cast under the soldier vote law is now on file in Federal court here.

Action was started by attorney Urban A. Lavery for Lt. William Downey, Sgt. Walter Cahill and Pvt. Richard Cahill, all overseas, to test the validity of the law.

The action calls upon Gov. Dwight H. Green to notify Washington that the Federal ballot will be recognized in Illinois.

Sen. Wagner Declines

CHICAGO — Sen. Robert F. Wagner of New York, twice chairman of the platform-making Democratic Rules Committee, has declined to serve at the convention opening July 19, the Associated Press has reported. The Democratic National Committee expects to announce the name of the new chairman before the week ends.

Mr. Wagner turned down the post, it was said, because he is attending the International Monetary Conference at Bretton Woods, N. H., which probably will overlap with the Democratic candidate-picking.

War Bond Drive

WASHINGTON — Corporations and other non banking investors far oversubscribed their fifth war loan drive quotas, increasing sales through Monday this week to 14,984,000,000 dollars, or 94 percent of the 16 billion dollar goal, the Treasury Department announced.

The sales of individual issues including EEE bonds continued to lag, but the heavy response of corporate purchasers was expected to send the overall total over the top and close the drive Saturday.

Thomas Speaks

NEW YORK — Norman Thomas, perennial Socialist candidate for President, this week charged that Thomas E. Dewey, the GOP Presidential nominee, has sidetracked the most important issues of the day and challenged Mr. Dewey to answer a series of questions clarifying his stand on the GOP platform.

Mr. Thomas said that he was talking mainly about the Republican party but he included criticism of President Roosevelt, Wendell Willkie, Rep. Clare Luce and what he termed "power politics in Europe between Moscow and London and the arrogance of the white empires in the Far East."

Pseudomanas

Phosphorescens

MEXIA, Texas — When citizens of this town rushed wildly to the police with the story that their refrigerators were lighting up without any electric bulbs inside, everyone began suspecting that his fellow townspeople had gone daff. Then Dr. J. S. Watson, city sanitarian stepped up and said the trouble was pseudomanas phosphorescens, which is caused by minute organisms thriving on meat in cold places. Not harmful, he said, just wash the meat off with vinegar.

Barbara Again

LOS ANGELES — Count Haugwitz-Reventlow, former Danish count, recently filed dismissal of his suit against his former wife, Barbara Hutton Grant, distemore heiress and wife of actor Cary Grant. The count had brought suit seeking control of the rearing and education of their son, Lance, 9. No reason was given for the withdrawal of the suit.

The count had charged that Mrs. Grant used "coarse and vulgar" language in the boy's presence and had attempted to undermine the boy's affection for his father. Mrs. Grant denied the charges.

Wallet Returns

SAN FRANCISCO — Last month seaman Roudet O. Turner was rescued from a ship which floundered on the Farallon Islands but he lost his wallet with 1,040 dollars he had saved during many months in the South Pacific. His wallet with the bills still inside was found on a beach 25 miles from the wreck and returned this week to the lucky sailor.

Tantalum Discovered

PIERRE, S. D. — Tantalum, a metal which helps in performing surgical miracles, has been discovered in the Black hills of South Dakota. It is a blue-gray metal, three times heavier than lead and can be made into almost invisible wire and sheets.

Surgeons are using tantalum to sew torn flesh. Although a supply has been found in Dakota, most of the wartime supply comes from Brazil.

Jackie Falls

HOLLYWOOD — Even a veteran screen star can succumb to the pinup craze. Jackie "The Kid" Coogan, glider pilot home from Burma, fell for glamour gal Ramsay Ames while at an Army base in India several months ago. "How about a date when I get back to Hollywood," he wrote her. Last weekend, Jackie and the actress went dancing.

Lena Horne Divorced

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Louis J. Jones has obtained a divorce from Lena Horne, Negro screen star, and custody of one of their children. Jones charged willful absence and Miss Horne did not contest the action.

Barnstormed

FORT DODGE, Iowa — Lloyd Bannister, 38-year-old farmer, was convicted of building a barn without permission of the U. S. Department of Agriculture War

RUINS IN DRAVOSBURG, PA.



HERE'S WHAT HAPPENS when a tornado rips through your living room. Mrs. Dorothy Wackerle, her legs in bandages, sits in the ruins of her home in Dravosburg, Pa., after a tornado which also swept through West Virginia, Maryland and Western Pennsylvania, killing 152 and injuring more than 1,000. (Acme)

THE REDS SMASH WESTWARD

Nazi Defenses Crumbled

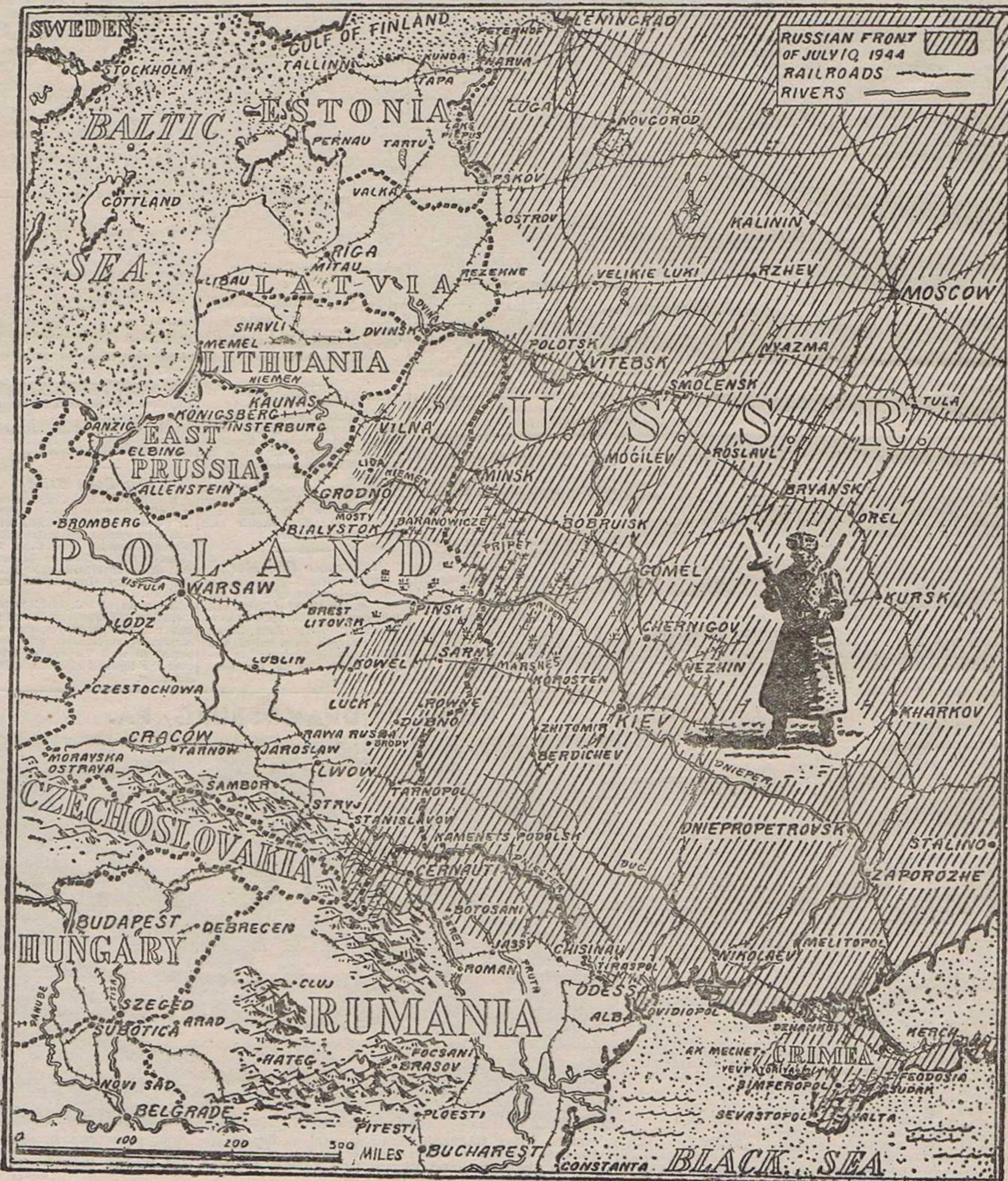
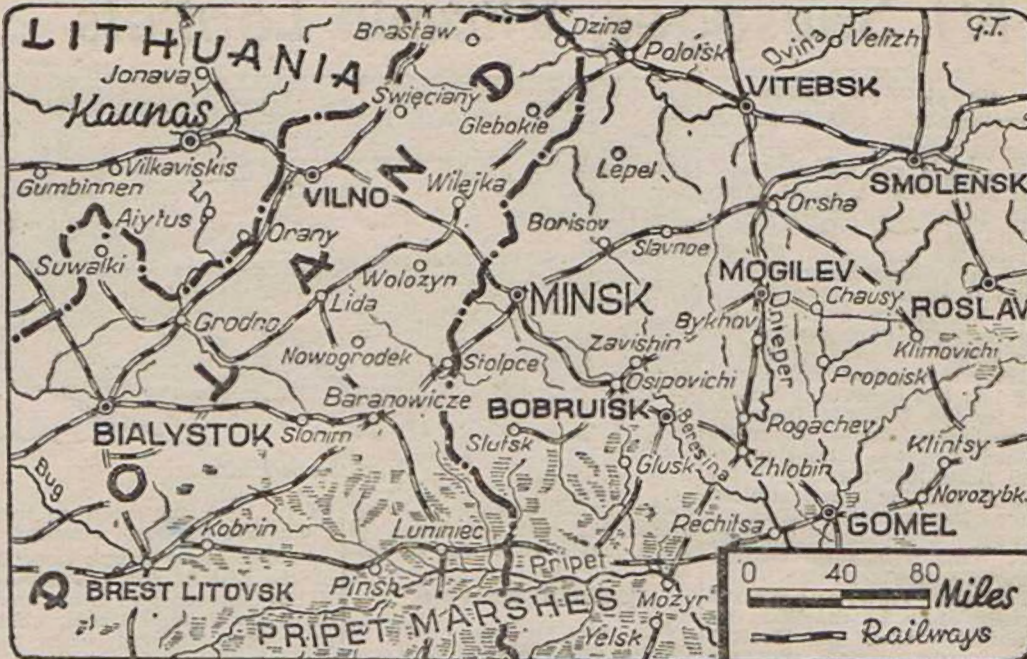
The great Russian summer offensive opened June 23 on a front in White Russia extending from south of Mogilev to Vitebsk. The German High Command announced it first but it took a very little while for the Soviets to confirm the start of the drive. Three great armies smashed ahead, day after day, toward Minsk, capital of White Russia and hinge of the whole Nazi defense position. On July 4, a day memorable also in American history, Adolf Hitler's bastion fell as the result of a deep encircling movement and the job of annihilating the trapped defenders began.

At no time has the Russian drive stalled, despite the great distances involved and the speed with which it has moved forward. Currently the Soviets are within 60 miles of East Prussia and threatening to isolate at least 40 German divisions in the Baltic

states of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia.

Other Red Army columns are threatening to break through to Warsaw on the central front. And from Warsaw the road to Berlin is straight and smooth. The Germans are trying desperately to hold at Vilna for the old Lithuanian capital as the key to the only overland route of escape for the Nazis in the Baltic. Escape by sea is dangerous in the face of Soviet air superiority and the Russian Baltic fleet has its eye peeled for just such a move.

In all, Hitler must be suffering from one large headache. His major defense lines were in White Russia and on them he gambled the protection of his Reich's borders. With these crumbled to dust by the powerful Soviet forces not even Tim Mara would lay even money that the Russians won't be inside Germany within a few weeks.



LEND ME YOUR EARS

By JIM BURCHARD

ROME—Everything was peaceful in the sports department when two cigars appeared in the doorway. They presently were followed by two characters in khaki who seemed vaguely familiar. Suspicion became certainty when one of the two, an ancient runt with a somewhat wrecked face, struck a fistic pose and belted, "Put 'em up, ya bum."

Yes, it was none other than William J. (Midget) Smith, one-time contender for the bantamweight championship of the world, and Andy Cohen, who enjoyed a short-time lease on second base for the New York Giants.

"We heard you was in town," said Midget. "Andy and me is with some nearby engineering outfits, so we gets the day off and comes to see you. Have a cigar."

"Overseas 22 months now," said Cohen. "You've got to hand it to Midget. He enlisted in the last war and this one too. He claims he's only 44."

Fought For Title

Unless you're an old-timer, you won't remember Midget. But back in the days of the Old Garden, before Tex Rickard bumbled enough dough to build his modern edifice on 50th Street and Eighth Avenue, N. Y., Midget packed them in. His fights against such famous little men as Joe Lynch and Little Jack Sharkey were leather classics.

He fought Lynch for the title in 1921, but blew the duke. He battled Joe Burman six times and Sharkey three. It amuses him to recall that Little Jack lost his restaurant and now labors as a doorman.

"Imagine a runt like him being a doorman," soliloquized the Midget.

Before he attained fistic headlines, Midget served as a bugler with the 29th Infantry in World War I. He had a lot of fun. He's still having it, as Police Commissioner Lewis Valentine, New York, can attest.

"When I was in Africa I sent Valentine a letter that I saw Judge Crater running a bingo game for the Arabs. I guess he was sort of sore, even though I mailed him a palm leaf of peace later."

Judge Crater, if you've forgotten, was a well-known New York jurist who disappeared without leaving a trace. It long has been a touchy point with the Manhattan Sherlock Holmes. But there wasn't much could be done to Midget for pulling that gag. He already had been busted from corporal to private in England.

Now Fight Pilot

Cohen, now a topkick, can't work up much of a sweat about baseball. He's the lad, you remember, whom John McGraw dug up in El Paso, Texas, to build up a Jewish gate in New York.

"No, my interest is in boxing now," stated Cohen. "I've got a GI light heavy named Homer Rogers. He's 24, and a pro from Haverhill, Mass. I think he'll go far back in the States."

"Far," yelled Midget, emitting a gust of cigar smoke that sent all listeners racing for gas masks. "he'll be a champ. I'm so sure of it, Andy, that I'll set up the drinks right now."

"You will set up no drinks," said Cohen. "You will go back to camp with me right now, and that is the order of your topkick."

"You're a tough mug," said the former bantamweight contender.

The strangely assorted pair departed, leaving a trail of dense, acrid cigar smoke that killed every fly in the room and sent the office cat yowling down the hall.

Hagg Gets His Revenge

STOCKHOLM — Gunder Hagg reversed the tables over the weekend and not only defeated his arch rival, Arne Andersson, but chalked up a new world's record for the 1,500 meters.

The old track master did the distance in 3:43, clipping two seconds off the mark previously set by Andersson. In

Browns Split With Senators

HINTS ON HIGH HURDLES



A BIT OF ADVICE ANENT the correct manner of shooting the hands over the hurdle is given Pvt. Johnny Pinta, Canada, by Lt. Antoine Pilon, trainer. Pinta is the 120-yard high hurdle star of the No. 3 District Zone, and now is tuning up at Mussolini Stadium. Lt. Pilon handles Canadian members of the team. They're a slick combination. (Staff Photo by Sgt. Cyril Hopper)

Six Miles Just A Breeze For Letter-Bearing Sikhs

MUSSOLINI STADIUM, July 10—Whether or not the representatives of No. 3 District Zone cart away any titles in the Mediterranean track and field finals Saturday and Sunday, they are certain to provide a notable splash of competitive color.

Prominent among the No. 3 qualifiers are athletes from England to western Canada and from Cyprus to India. In fact, a turbaned Sikh with the handle of L-Naik Jajir Singh is a red hot choice in the six-mile run. He and L-C Alec Olney, Great Britain, will gallop the distance event for No. 3.

If Naik Jajir Singh is off his feed, he can be replaced by Sapper Banta Singh or Sapper Soudhrer Singh. At the moment these two lads are alternates and rarin' to go.

The Sikhs are natural runners, explained Lt. Wally Millington, officer in charge of the No. 3 team. Many of them labor as mailmen during their early years. Unlike his city brother, who ambles a few blocks and calls it a day, the Sikh postman will run dozens of miles to deliver a letter. He carries it in a cleft stick.

"They can run all day," said Lt. Millington.

The six-mile time in the No. 3 Zone elimination final is listed at 29:35.6. Admitting that Naik Jajir Singh can reel off the miles, these figures appear to be a series of typographical errors. The American six-mile record is 30:20.4, and the world mark only 29:08.4.

Lt. Millington looks for his No. 3 team to wrap up the 400-meter, three-mile, and six-mile runs. He is heartily seconded by Lt. Antoine Pilon, Montrealean who trains the Canadians. Certainly the boys looked capable in their morning workout today.

Their 400-meter hopeful is Sgt. Roland Dewdney, Great Britain. His zone time for the 440 was 53.1 seconds, which was tops for the theater. L-C R. A. Abel, Canada, is the three-mile ace. Lt. Pilon says "he's a cinch." Pilon

also is extremely partial to Naik Jajir Singh, which proves him a man of rare judgment.

Some of the zones are still to be heard from, but billeting officer Lt. Wright expects they'll be in by tomorrow. The big show gets underway at 10 AM Saturday with high jump prelims. There will be no morning competition Sunday, when the curtain rises at 2 PM with a rededication of the stadium.

North Africa's broad jump entries, Cpl. Nolan McCoy and Sgt. Eddie Gory, both attended Jefferson High School, Los Angeles. . . . They represent an MP outfit. . . . When Casablanca's runners arrive, all eyes will focus upon Lt. (j.g.) Walter J. Mehl, Wisconsin, holder of the national indoor mile title. . . . His 3:47.9 is the accepted American mark for 1,500-meters. . . . Only ten instead of the original 11 zones will take part in the finals. . . . Fifth Corps Zone never sent in an entry.

Stella Cracks Track Record

HARRISBURGH, Pa.—Stella Walsh, Cleveland Olympic star, broke the AAU record for 200 meters and came through with a triple victory in the women's national track and field meet. Her time for the 200 was 24.6 seconds. She also won the broad jump and nosed out Alice Coachman, Tuskegee, Ala., by less than a foot in the 100-meter dash.

Miss Coachman tied the world record in the 50 meters, being clocked in 6.4 seconds. The record was set by Miss Walsh in Poland in 1933.

Rosenthal To A's

PHILADELPHIA, July 10—The Athletics today obtained Larry Rosenthal, veteran outfielder, from the Yankees in exchange for Lew Flick and also purchased second baseman Joe Burns from Indianapolis. Flick will report to the Yanks' Newark farm which Rosenthal refused to join when released over the weekend.

50,000 To Stir Up

NEW YORK—Stir Up grabbed the 50,000 dollar Empire City Handicap at Jamaica, equalling the track record of 1:56.2 for the mile and three-sixteenths. It was Stir Up's fifth victory of the season. Lucky Draw was second and By Jimmy third.

Cards Roar Closer To Pennant With Twin Victory Over Braves

NEW YORK, July 10—The league-leading Browns and the Senators traded shutouts at the capital Sunday with St. Louis winning the curtain raiser, 10-0, and the lawmakers copping the finale, 4-0. Al Shirley was unbeatable in the opener, limiting the losers to two safeties, both singles by George Myatt and Bob Ortiz.

In the nightcap the Senators jumped on Al Hollingsworth for three markers in the first frame when Joe Vosmik doubled with the bases loaded. After that it was a cinch for Dutch Leonard who had his knuckleball working to perfection.

Pat Secrey's homer in the second inning with a man on base gave Cleveland a flying start in the first game of a twin bill with the Red Sox at Fenway park and the Indians triumphed, 8-2. Ed Kileman toed the rubber for the Tribe.

Forum d'Italia Name Selected

ROME, July 10—Beginning Sunday, July 16, the Olympic Stadium at Forum Mussolini will be known as "Forum d'Italia." The new name will become official at a re-dedication ceremony preceding the final events of the two-day Mediterranean track and field finals. The name was selected by Italian officials in this city.

Pancho Nips Billy In Five

NEENAH, Wis., July 10—Powerful Francisco Segura, Ecuador's two-handed raquet wielder, snared his fourth tennis championship within a month yesterday when he took the singles of the Western Senior tournament. The colorful South American won a grueling three-hour match from Bill Talbert: 3-6, 6-1, 4-6, 6-3, 11-9.

Segura suffered a strained ankle ligament and had to leave the court after the first set to have his ankle taped. In addition to the Western title, he also holds the Intercollegiate Singles, the National Clay Court and Tri-State tournament championships.

Pauline Betz, Los Angeles, took the Women's Singles when she defeated Dorothy May Bundy with little difficulty, 6-1, 6-2.

Byron And Jug Nab Golf Title

MINNEAPOLIS — Byron Nelson and Jug McSpaden, after leading throughout 126 holes of play, won the Golden Valley Golf championship with a three-point margin over the second place duo of Bill Kaiser and Bob Hamilton.

The winners, who were rivals for the 1944 championship, teamed perfectly in best ball competition and had a 63-8 stroke average for the seven rounds played. Their total of 447 was 34 below par.

HERE'S THE PAYOFF

Q. Did Joe Louis in his pro career ever fight Jack Sharkey? If so, where and when?

—Pvt. Joe Minerchak

A. Joe Louis knocked Sharkey out in the third round of their bout in New York, Aug. 17, 1936.

Q. When did Don Hutson, All-America end from Alabama, play in the Rose Bowl?

—Sgt. R. L. Cooper

A. Hutson played in the Bowl against Stanford University on New Year's Day, 1935.

Q. Where can I forward an application for entrance into the 5th Army zone final for the swimming meet?

—Pvt. Louis Venuti

A. Send your application to Lt. Michael Kosteva, SSO, 5th Army, or 5th Army Rest Center.

Q. Who were the two men credited with hitting the only grand slam homers in World Series competition?

—Cpl. Tom Bowler

A. Elmer Smith, Cleveland

Indians did the trick against Brooklyn in the 1929 series, and Tony Lazzeri homered with the bases loaded in 1936.

Q. Situation: (a) Batter hits the ball into foul territory but it bounces into fair ground before passing first base. Is it fair or foul? (b) Batter hits the ball into fair territory and again it bounces out into foul ground. Is it fair or foul?

—Sgt. James Baskett

A. In the first instance the ball is foul. In the second case, if the ball remains in fair territory past first or third base, it is a fair ball, otherwise foul.

Q. Has there ever been a perfect score (300) bowled in duck pins, according to the National Bowling Assn. rules?

—Pfc. George C. Kendig

A. The records reveal no perfect score reached. Eddie Funaro, New Haven, Conn., scored 239, the record accepted by the National Duck Pin Bowling Congress.

Saipan Conquest Hailed As Key To Pacific Victory

(Continued from page 1)

vide the necessary air cover for warships.

How important Japan's warlords considered Saipan as an inner defense bastion was attested by the fact that they were willing to sacrifice more than 10,000 soldiers in a suicidal but futile attempt to keep it from falling into American hands.

Saipan was won at the expense of the bloodiest personnel losses suffered by the U. S. in any Pacific campaign but its conquest extends American sea and air power over a wide expanse of the Philippines Sea where Japan's most valuable lifelines to the southward now are threatened.

BITTER FIGHTING

No final estimate of American casualties was available but it was recalled that by June 30 the United States had suffered 9,752 casualties in the first 14 days of the campaign. Of this number 1,474 were killed, 7,400 wounded and 878 were missing. Although the fighting continued bitter it was believed that casualties for the last ten days were not as high as in earlier fighting.

In addition to losing its key base in the western Pacific and its entire Saipan garrison, Japan also lost more than 1,000 planes, 100 ships destroyed or damaged in the campaign.

It was believed that the next American move would be against Tinian, Rota and Guam to the south—all of which have been subjected to intensified carrier task force attacks.

MUST CONSOLIDATE

Before Saipan can be utilized as a springboard for an invasion against the Philippines, American forces face the task of first consolidating their hold on the island and securing their flank which may mean a coordinated drive to seal off the Carolines to the south and southwest and neutralizing attacks against the Bonin and Volcano Islands 600 miles to the northwest of Saipan. Diversionary attacks against the Kuriles in the north are also a probability.

Invasion of the Philippines could be a two-pronged drive from Saipan and New Guinea

Caumont

(Continued from page 1)

nounced this morning that "German lines have been withdrawn at several points between St. Jean de Daye and Caumont." This would indicate a successful American offensive in the area of St. Lo, which is still in German hands.

One correspondent reported late this afternoon that British forces in Caen had wiped out the last pockets of German resistance in the city proper.

German artillery east of the River Orne, which runs through Caen, was shelling parts of Caen heavily in an obvious attempt to cover withdrawal of the last enemy troops in the area.

Pockets of German resistance were still fighting back north of the town, on the west side of the Orne River, but because of their isolated positions their only alternates appeared to be surrender or death.

The Allied line around Caen was reported to run from Colombelles, eight miles northeast of Caen and a mile east of the Orne River, around the west side of the city to a point in the southern outskirts.

The Germans were said to have flooded the eastern side of the lower stretches of Orne by opening the Caen Canal floodgates on the coast at Cherbourg.

LI'L ABNER

By
AL CAPP

where the Allies have airfields only 800 miles from the Philippines. This would put American forces in position to cut Japan's inner defense line, lop off the Dutch East Indies and pave the way for establishing bases on the China coast—an objective which was made plain recently by Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, commander of the Pacific fleet. The net effect would be to encircle the Japanese home islands for the final assault which President Roosevelt long ago promised would come from the north, south, east and west, and which more recently he said would come sooner than most persons supposed.

Meanwhile, military experts pointed out that since last November when the invasion of the Gilberts began on bloody Tarawa, American forces have smashed from one end of the Japanese mandated islands to the other—a distance of some 2,500 miles. Thus they have accomplished in eight months the lightning amphibious warfare which prewar military authorities predicted would require two to five years.

Ousted Counsel Stays Ousted

WASHINGTON, July 10—The District Court of Appeals yesterday refused to consider an appeal by James J. Laughlin against an order by Justice Edward C. Elcher ousting him as one of the defense attorneys at the mass sedition trial now being held here.

Laughlin, who represented two of the 29 defendants, was barred from further participation by Justice Elcher on the grounds that he had been continuously contemptuous and disrespectful to the court. He said he would seek a rehearing before the appellate court because one of the appellate justices was out of the city today.

Hawaiian Japs Aid War Effort

WASHINGTON, July 10—Americans of Japanese ancestry are proving to be "good citizens in the war effort in Hawaii" according to a report of Newton R. Holcomb, territorial director of the War Manpower Commission.

"They are all employed and working as good Americans," Holcomb's report said. "Those who might have caused trouble were known and picked up immediately after war started."

Except for the ban against their working in a limited number of military projects, Holcomb said restrictions on Japanese-Americans, who constitute 30 percent of the Hawaiian labor force, are "practically nil."

Trapped Miners Fail To Answer

BELLAIRE, Ohio, July 10—Rescue squads using a high-speed electric drill last night succeeded in boring through 410 feet of coal and earth at the Powatan coal mine shaft where 66 men are entombed, but they could get no response from below to indicate that the men are still alive. Despite waning hope, another shaft is being driven. The men were imprisoned following a mine fire last Wednesday.

Hutton Child Proves Problem

LOS ANGELES, July 10—Barbara Hutton, dime store heiress and wife of actor Cary Grant, this week asked the district attorney to investigate the taking to Canada of her son, Lance, 8, by his father, Count Kurt Haugwitz-Reventlow.

Barbara claims her son was taken by the count the day before Lance was to come to spend six months in the custody of his mother. The child spends six months with each parent.

Put Them On, Take 'Em Off

By Sgt. PAUL S. GREEN

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH THE 5TH ARMY, July 10—"Let's celebrate," yelled Joe Hazzer affectionately patting his arm where no stripes showed as yet. "Let's get a can of C rations and some lemonade and celebrate."

The Des Moines medic, now with a 34th Division regimental headquarters, had something to celebrate about. He had just made Pfc. Not that it was anything new. He had been a Pfc. three times before and actually reached as high as T-4 once but each time he was busted.

FOUR BUCKS BETTER

"I feel four bucks a month better," Joe confided. "Up to now I've been the only buck in the section. Every Pfc. used to order me around. Imagine, me, who used to be a T-4." Joe was justifiably indignant, "but those days is over."

Joe first made Pfc. May 2, 1941, back in Camp Claiborne, La., but was broken a month later for being late on pass. He slowly climbed the ladder to T-4 but fell off the ladder after six months because of another pass. "Them busses were never on time in Claiborne," he explained. Jan. 4, 1943, he reached Pfc. again and then up to T-5. When he came out of the hospital last February there was too much rank in his outfit and he was stripeless again.

Joe is fatalistic. "By Aug. 1, I'll be busted again," he predicted confidently. "I don't know for what I'll do something. I come in to this man's Army a buck and I'll go out a buck."

A horrible thought struck him. "I hope they don't make me a T-5," he exclaimed with alarm. "Too many responsibilities."

Coast Drive

(Continued from page 1)

north-south road that flanks Poggibonsi.

More hard fighting was reported east of Poggibonsi and northwest of Castellina, about 45 miles in from the Tyrrhenian coast.

Italian troops serving with the 5th Army scored one of their finest achievements yesterday by capturing the important mountain town of Filottrano, about 15 miles southwest of Ancona. This major task was allotted to the Italians alone.

The first Italian advance on the town was made three days before it fell. Forward patrols reached the outskirts of the town where they found the enemy in strength and were later cut off when the Germans counter-attacked. But Saturday morning the main Italian attack started with a heavy artillery barrage after which the ground troops went into action.

GI Cuts Fourth King To Win Army's Most Welcome Gift

By Pvt. BOB MEYER

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH THE 5TH ARMY, July 10—A cannon company commander in the forward area has many problems, but Capt. Paul W. Blowman, Clearfield, Pa., of the 34th Division, can add one that even famed King Solomon would gladly have side stepped.

Capt. Blowman received orders from headquarters to send someone home on a 30-day furlough. Only soldiers eligible were three tech sergeants in his outfit who came overseas on the same boat in April, 1942. There was no passing the problem, so the captain did the next best thing. He got out a deck of playing cards, appealed to the gambling instincts of the three sergeants, and by their own hands the soldiers decided who should get the break.

The three sergeants were T-Sgt. Lester Mazelin, Monroe, Ind.; T-Sgt. Bucky Walters, Newark, N. J.; and T-Sgt. Robert Mucha, Duluth, Minn.

The drawing was a big event in the company, so all personnel crowded around the entrance of the orderly room awaiting a draw by draw account.

The participants lined up before Capt. Blowman's desk which was bare save for the deck of cards. At the captain's signal the men cut the cards for preference, sort of a dry run to see who would get first crack at the full deck. They finished Mazelin, Mucha and Walters in that order.

HANDS TREMBLE

His hand trembling ever so lightly, Sgt. Mazelin made his choice—a king. Sgts. Mucha and Walters breathed a sigh of disappointment but drew their cards in quick succession to get the game over. The excitement increased when Mucha drew a king and so did Walters.

Next round Walters was first and turned up the two of hearts. Mazelin beat that with a six of diamonds. Mucha said something about winning in a walk as he reached for his card, and he was painfully right. He turned up the fourth and last king in the deck.

Sgts. Walters and Mazelin had no complaints, and they took their defeat like good soldiers. But rumor has it that the Germans caught plenty of hell from guns one and three in a certain 34th Division cannon company all that afternoon.

Vets' Business Help Planned

WASHINGTON, July 10—Quincy Adams, chief of the Small Business Bureau, said today that the government is taking all possible steps to insure that small businesses launched by veterans with government-guaranteed loans will succeed.

He predicted that 3,000,000 veterans will go into business for themselves, and said that the Department of Commerce at the request of the Army is preparing a series of books on how to operate 20 different small enterprises.

Soviets

(Continued from page 1)

to Warsaw and central Germany. In a 24-hour period, the Soviet High Command reported, more than 1,000 towns and villages have fallen to the advancing Red armies, 700 of them in the plains stretching northeast from Vilna to the Dvina River.

Among the more important localities captured by the Soviets were Lida and Novogorodek, 30 miles southeast, both important outposts of the Nazi Polish defense line covering the approaches to Grodno and Bialystok.

These new victories were interpreted as a sign that the general Russian advance west was being pushed in such a manner as to place Konigsberg in East Prussia and Warsaw under simultaneous threat. At the same time they placed Grodno and Bialystok in danger of a double converging movement. Junction of a Soviet pincers around one or both of these cities would repeat the success scored by the Russians at Minsk and open a yawning gap in the German front on the direct approaches to the Reich.

